

**Reminder: *Steel shot is required on all GPA's and WPA's
*2 Bonus Blue-winged Teal allowed first 16 days of season**

Aurora County

Lynn Geuke



Fishing report:

Wilmarth Mitchell: Activity has been slow.

Reminder: The minimum length limit on Largemouth/Smallmouth Bass in the lake is 15"

THE ENTIRE LAKE OF WILMARTH IS A NO WAKE ZONE!

Nelson Lake: No report. **NO VEHICLES DRIVING OFF ROADS.**



Hunting report: The Dove population in the area is decreasing due to colder weather, due to this hunting will become harder.

The Goose population in the area is sparse. There are a few pockets of geese in the area though. Hunting activity has been low for the area.

Beadle County

Chris Kuntz



Fishing Report: Fishing has been slow.

James River: A few walleye have been caught near the dams.

Lake Byron: No report.

Mud Lake: No activity.

Cavour Lake: No report.

Ravine: No activity.



Hunting Report: Waterfowl hunters had moderate success this weekend with better numbers of birds in the northern half of the county.

Bon Homme County

Todd Crownover



Fishing Report

Missouri River: Catfish are starting to bite more. They are using worms and stink bait. Carp are being caught on corn and even some channel cats. Drum are also biting on worms. Both large and smallmouth bass are biting on artificials.

Lake Henry: Bluegill and crappies are biting on worms, leaches and minnows. Small Rapala's are also catching bass and larger crappies.

Remember bass size is 15 inches and the lake is slow-no wake.

Clear Lake: No report.

Merkel Lake (Singleton GPA): FISH DIE OFF.

Heritage GPA: Small bluegill and bass are being caught on worms.



Hunting Report: No activity.

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Brookings County

Jeff Grendler



Fishing Reports:

Lake Sinai: Some larger bluegill in that 11 inch range are being caught. Some large smallmouth bass are being caught in the southwest bay.

West Lake Oakwood: No activity.

East Oakwood: No Activity.

Oak Lake: Very little fishing activity.

Brush Lake: No Activity.

Lake Poinsett: Slow

East 81 ponds: No Activity.

Lake Hendricks: Some perch in that 14 inch range. Bite has been somewhat inconsistent.

Lake Goldsmith: No Activity.

Lake Campbell: No Activity.



Hunting Report: There are still some doves in the area but a good number have left with the cold weather. There are some Game Production Areas(GPA's) that were planted with sunflowers to draw in or attract doves to these areas. Areas in the Brookings County area include the Kamp GPA near the Big Sioux River and Oakwood GPA near Lake Oakwood.

There have been a number of Canada geese in the area and hunters have had some success. The northwest and southwest areas have been the most promising. Duck numbers are good and will only get better as the season progresses.

Clay County

Tony Stokely



Fishing Report:

Missouri River: There has been more activity but no reports.

Vermillion River: Some fishing success along Vermillion river for catfish.

Reminder: There must be a wearable lifejacket of appropriate size for everybody on board your boat.



Hunting Report: Farmers are starting to cut corn. Waterfowl hunters on the Missouri River will be dealing with higher water levels than in the years past. The higher water level is expected to stay the same or increase potentially until December 10th according to the Army Corp of Engineers. Archery Deer Hunters are prepping for opening weekend. Crop harvest will be a factor this year and will provide a lot of cover later into the year.

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Davison County

Andy Petersen



Fishing Report:

Remember Firesteel Creek is off limits to the taking of any baitfish.

Lake Mitchell: Bluegill and Crappie are being caught. Small bass and walleye. Nice catfish all around the lake.

James River: Catfish all along the river.



Hunting Report: Waterfowl: Hunters had good success opening weekend. Duck numbers appear to be good in the area.

Hanson County

Andy Petersen/Matt Talbert



Fishing Report: Fishing has been rather slow, a few northerns and panfish have been caught.

Lake Hanson:

Ethan Dam:

James River:



Hunting Report:

Waterfowl: Hunters had good success opening weekend. Duck numbers appear to be good in the area.

Hutchinson County

Brian Humphrey



Fishing: Catfish continue to be caught on the James River near Olivet using frogs and shrimp.



Hunting: Dove hunting has slowed down, but there are still some around.

Jerauld County

Lynn Geuke



Fishing Report: No report.



Hunting Report: Goose hunting has been slow in the area. Doves will be moving south with the colder weather moving in.

Kingsbury County

Shane Van Bockern



Fishing Reports:

Lake Thompson: Fair to good for walleye, crappie, pike, white bass, and some perch.

West 81: Fair success on walleye and white bass.

Lake Whitewood: Slow.

Lake Henry: Slow to fair for pike and walleye.

Lake Albert: Fair for pike and walleye.

Spirit Lake: Slow.

Lake Preston: No activity.



Hunting Report: Dove hunting – Little to no hunting pressure.
Canada goose – Goose numbers are low and hunting pressure has been light.
Local duck numbers are very strong.

Lake County

Cody Symens



Fishing Report:

Lake Madison: Anglers catching a few smaller-sized perch and walleye from boats and docks around the lake.

Lake Herman: Slow.

Brant Lake: Anglers catching 3-5" bass and an occasional northern pike.

Long Lake: No pressure.

Lake Henry: A few reports of boaters having success catching walleye in the 15-18" range.

Lake George: Slow.



Hunting Report: Waterfowl hunters had excellent success across the whole county harvesting teal, wood ducks, northern shovelers, and a few mallards. There were very few geese shot last weekend but there is ample opportunity for Canada geese but scouting and decoying is the key to success.

Lincoln County

Nate Stukel



Fishing Report:

Big Sioux: A few catfish and the occasional walleye are being caught.

Hudson: Little fishing activity. Small Bluegill can still be caught from the fishing docks.

Lake Alvin: Boat anglers are still having fair success.

Lake Lakota: No fishing activity.



Hunting Report:

Doves: Most of the Doves have moved out of the Lincoln County area.

Ducks: A fair duck hunting opportunity exists in the county if an individual takes the time to scout and find where the birds are concentrated.

McCook County

Matt Talbert



Fishing Report:

Lake Vermillion: Shore anglers have had some luck on Catfish. Not much water is running over the spillway reducing the likelihood of catching anything in that area. Boat anglers have been picking up a few walleye here and there early and late in the day.

Island Lake: Shore and Boat anglers will have some luck on pike and smallmouth bass.

Lehrman Slough: No fishing activity seen.



Hunting Report:

Waterfowl- Plenty of ducks in the area.

Miner County

Evan Meyer



Fishing Report: No activity.



Hunting Report: Bean harvest is going good. Still some teal and wood ducks around. Fair number of ducks in the area. Most farmers are finished cutting silage which should open opportunity for field hunting. Colder temps should push smaller ducks out.

Minnehaha County

Jared Hill



Fishing Report:

Beaver Lake: A few walleye, small perch and crappie.

Scott Slough: Bullheads fair to good. A few small perch and walleye.

Island Lake: A few pike, perch, and walleye.

Loss Lake: Bullheads fair and a few walleye.

Lost Lake: No reports.

Twin Lakes: Walleyes fair to good. **(REMEMBER: 28 inch minimum on Walleyes.)**

Family Park: A few trout, bluegill, and crappie.

Wall Lake: A few walleye, blue gill, and crappie.

Clear Lake: No reports.



Hunting Report: Goose hunters who have spent time scouting are having success. Try and pattern the birds to maximize your opportunity. Duck hunter have been having fair to good success.

Moody County

Chad Williams



Fishing Report: Anglers are starting to catch some nice walleyes below the Flandreau Dam using jig head and minnow. Catfish have been biting well using liver, stink bait, crawlers, and raw shrimp or leopard frogs.



Hunting Report: There are a good number of doves in the area. However some doves have started to move out with cooler temperatures. There are more and more fields being cut for silage and geese are using these fields in the morning and evenings. Duck season will soon open on the 27th of September and there are lots of ducks around the local area.

Sanborn County

Evan Meyer



Fishing Report: Fishing activity has been minimal in the county.



Hunting Report: Bean harvest is going good. Still some teal and wood ducks around. Fair number of ducks in the area. Most farmers are finished cutting silage which should open opportunity for field hunting. Colder temps should push smaller ducks out.

Turner County

Brian Humphrey



Fishing Report: Fishing forecast for Swan Lake looks good for anglers who are seeking to catch some nice Walleyes.



Hunting: We have some areas looking for some youth deer hunters in Turner county. If you are interested, contact Brian Humphrey at 387-5603 for more information.

Union County

Tony Stokely / Nate Stukel



Fishing Report: Little fishing activity.

Missouri River: Low activity.

Big Sioux River: Low activity. Boaters still accessing Sioux River on Hwy 50 east of Richland on Iowa side, also north of Akron.

McCook Lake: Little to no activity.

Reminder: There must be a wearable lifejacket of appropriate size for everybody on board your boat.



Hunting Report: Minimal success on geese and doves. Youth Waterfowl season is Sept. 20th-21st. Teal numbers are sporadic with good numbers at times, this is weather dependent. Waterfowl hunters on the Missouri River will be dealing with higher water levels than in the years past. The higher water level is expected to stay the same or increase potentially until December 10th according to the Army Corp of Engineers. Archery Deer Hunters are prepping for opening weekend. Crop harvest will be a factor this year and will provide a lot of cover later into the year.

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Yankton County

Dan Altman



Fishing Report:

Marindahl: Fishing pressure and success has been low. Some anglers report catching a lot of bullheads and small bluegill. Occasional 2-3 pound catfish are being caught.

Lewis and Clark: Anglers are catching walleye near the Yankton/Bon Homme County line. Some smallmouth bass and channel catfish are being caught around Lewis and Clark Marina.

James River: The bite is slow.

Lake Yankton: **DEAD!!!** The first stage of the Lake Yankton renovation project is complete. Stocking efforts are scheduled for this fall

Missouri River: The bite has slowed. Occasional walleye, smallmouth bass, drum and pike are being caught below Gavin's Point Dam.



Hunting Report: Waterfowl hunters are having fair success. Canada geese are sparse throughout most of the county but some opportunity exists further north. Dove season is also open but many of the doves moved on during last week's cool spell.

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Region 3 updates.